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AUTHOR Forrester, Keith; And Others
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ABSTRACT

This book examines workplace learning in the United Kingdom within the context of the changing world of education and training, adult learners/learning, and stakeholder roles in employee development. Discussed in the first three chapters are the following topics: the current debates over vocational education and training and their links to economic prosperity, new working practices, and the shortcomings of vocational education and training (VET) in Great Britain in the 1990s; motives and approaches of individuals/organizations calling for massive extension of workplace learning; and distinctions between education and training and the curriculum of adult education and training. In the next three chapters, data from a 1991 survey of approximately 40 large employers with nearly 1 million employees and case studies of 14 employers and their employee development programs are cited in discussions of the following topics: models of development and changing employment practices; employer and employee aspirations and achievements; and reasons and remedies for exclusion of many employees from VET. The final three chapters explore the following topics: trade unions' attitudes toward VET; reconciliation of public and private interests in VET; and public policy and VET stakeholder actions within the context of social change. Contains 11 figures and 193 references. (MN)

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